

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/ carers

January 4th 2021

Firstly, I would like to wish all parents and pupils a happy new year. Whilst times have been extremely challenging, I would like you to know that I will do everything I can to keep educating the young people at the UTC. Working in collaboration with parents, we can add huge value in terms of progress to all pupils studying at the UTC and you have my word, I will continue to find new and innovative ways to improve pupil outcomes.

Those students that are returning to the UTC because parents or carers are key workers, can you please arrive at the UTC for 8:30am. During the morning, students will be required to carry out a Covid-19 test and there will be a further test 3-5 days later, parents will be informed of any positive results for those in year 9 and students in post 16 will be contacted directly. Once this test has been completed, should your child test negative, they will be escorted to a computer room where they will engage with normal lessons via Teams. This is to ensure a minimal amount of learning time is lost. If a child tests positive, a parent or carer will be informed and the pupil will immediately be asked to leave the site. A PCR test should be booked immediately via the gov.uk website or by calling 119. If this comes back negative, then the pupil may return to the UTC, but will continue to be tested daily for 7 days. The school day will end at 3:10pm Monday – Thursday and end at 1:10pm on a Friday, pupils will be escorted off site by a member of staff. If parents do not wish their child to leave without being picked up, please inform the UTC as soon as possible.

Those students that will be remote learning from home should follow their normal timetable (see home learning guidance below). This has now been emailed out twice. I would advise parents, where possible, to ensure this timetable is printed so you can check that it is being followed.

Students that are absent from lessons will receive a courtesy call to check they have all of their log in details. The expectation is clear, pupils should remote into all of their lessons. If your child is ill then you should notify the UTC as you would normally.



Doncaster UTC College Road Doncaster DN13BF











## **Home Learning**

We use Microsoft Teams in order to deliver our remote learning curriculum, as well as a communication platform for our students and staff.

For communicating with staff outside of Live/Feedback sessions, students are encouraged to use the conversation function within their classes on Teams. These messages can be seen by a whole group. One example would be for a student to ask for clarification on deadlines, or additional questions to aid understanding of a topic. As a guide, imagine putting your hand up in class to ask a question. This question can then be answered by anyone of the students in the group or the teacher themselves.

All work is set in Teams Assignments within class teams. This will alert students that work is present for them to complete, allowing the school to track the work that has been set and provide detailed feedback. See the video on the school website for a simple guide to working with assignments in teams.

If you do experience any issues, you can email <a href="mailto:remotelearning@doncasterutc.co.uk">remotelearning@doncasterutc.co.uk</a> or call the admin team.

Whilst the assignments are set on Teams, we understand that technology may be a barrier for our students completing it. Staff are sympathetic to this and although students will be required to complete the work, this can take many forms including pen and paper. Students should upload their work using a photograph to assignments when it is possible to do so.

Students can also use the conversation button in the Team for the subject to communicate directly with their class teacher.

#### **Curriculum Delivery**

As I previously mentioned, pupils will continue to follow their normal timetables. Teachers will also deliver lessons already planned, in-line with the schemes of learning. This means all the content covered online will be part of the next high stakes assessments, which will be completed at the end of February. If pupils are not to fall behind it's essential that they engage with the online learning. Lessons can be accessed live on all mobile devices including mobile phones. If you have concerns over technology please contact <a href="mailto:dutcadmin@doncasterutc.co.uk">dutcadmin@doncasterutc.co.uk</a>. It's expected that all Years 12s use the iPad provided.



Doncaster UTC College Road Doncaster DN13BF











Those students studying German for enrichment will be provided with two online recorded lessons per week. Tasks for submission will be built into the lessons.

### **Lunch times**

During go the next two weeks the canteen will not be open so please send you child to the UTC with a packed lunch. All students that qualify for free school meals, a voucher will be emailed to spend in your choice of supermarket.

## **Travel**

The UTC minibus will not be running until Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Advice for those students using public transport now and on or after 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021 is wear a face mask and sanitise hands frequently. This regime will also be reiterated in the UTC.

# **Covid-19 procedures**

Firstly, whilst the UTC will be carrying out lateral flow tests, please do not send your child to the UTC if they have symptoms. As before you should book you child a PCR test by ordering online or calling 119 to book an appointment. Only when your child has received a negative test should they return. If a member of the family has tested positive for Covid-19 then your child should still self isolate for 10 days. Either way you should keep the UTC updated.

Once students fully return to the UTC they will be expected to have a small bottle of hand sanitizer on their person. This will be checked by tutors each morning. If this runs out further bottles can be purchased at the UTC for 50p.

Students should maintain social distancing where ever possible, rapid tests are not a replacement and I want to ensure the UTC continues to be a safe place for staff and students.

Face masks should be worn at all times in the UTC other than during lesson times. It is expected students bring their own. Should they turn up to the UTC without one, face masks can be purchased for 20p.

Students that are attending the UTC are expected to attend in full uniform, there are no different expectations, including basic equipment required for online lessons. Whilst onsite



Doncaster UTC College Road Doncaster DN13BF











students will be required to fully engage with the online learning. Disruption at the stage will not be tolerated and parents may be asked to collect their child.

Working together we will ensure students get the best possible education whilst working online.

Yours faithfully,

Rouses

Mr G Rawson

Principal

Doncaster UTC



Doncaster UTC College Road Doncaster DN13BF







